

## Irish Senior Women: Ranking System

The Irish rankings are based on finishing positions achieved by players at the nominated Irish Tour events, and will be used as the basis for Irish team selection. These pages explain how the rankings are calculated and the rules that are applied and used as the basis for selection.

### Qualifying Events

Ranking points for the 2014/2015 season will be awarded at the following events:

Level 1 Event:

- Irish Nationals (Tour 5 – Dec 2014/or sometime 2015 TBC)

Level 2 Events:

- Curragh Open (Tour 1 – Sept 2014)
- **Munster Open (Tour 2 – Oct 2014)**
- Ulster Open (Tour 3 – Oct 2014)
- Leinster Open (Tour 4 – Nov 2014)
- Mount Pleasant Open (Tour 6 – Jan 2015)
- Ballyearl Senior Open (Tour 8 – Mar 2015)

See Irish Squash Web site for the exact dates.

Note: Connacht Senior Open (Tour 7 March 2015) is not part of the Women's Tour Circuit.

### Scoring

The number of ranking points available will be dependent on the level of the event being played:

#### Level 1 Event

| Posn | 1    | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Pts  | 1000 | 950 | 900 | 850 | 800 | 750 | 725 | 700 | 675 | 650 | 625 | 600 | 575 | 575 | 525 | 525 |

| Posn | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  | 32  |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Pts  | 475 | 475 | 425 | 425 | 375 | 350 | 325 | 300 | 275 | 250 | 225 | 200 | 175 | 150 | 125 | 100 |

#### Level 2 Event

| Posn | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Pts  | 750 | 725 | 700 | 675 | 650 | 625 | 600 | 575 | 550 | 525 | 500 | 475 | 450 | 450 | 400 | 400 |

| Posn | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Pts  | 350 | 350 | 300 | 300 | 250 | 225 | 200 | 175 | 150 | 125 | 100 | 85 | 70 | 55 | 40 | 25 |

Ranking points will only be awarded to players who qualify to play for Ireland, under Irish Squash governing body rules. For example, if a non-Irish player were to compete in an Open event and finish 3<sup>rd</sup>, the points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place would be awarded to the Irish player finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> position.

If a “Home Player” is unable to play in a Tour Event due to an international squash commitment (i.e. representing Ireland at the Women’s World Team Championship or the European Team Championships or the equivalent Junior or Masters events), then they will be awarded their average points for that Tour Event based on the 7 Tour Events over the preceding 12 months. Other player types are not covered by this rule.

### Player Types

Each player will be categorised by a player type, which will be determined at the start of each season, set as 1<sup>st</sup> September. The different player types and multipliers for the 2014/2015 season are:

| Player Type            | Description  |
|------------------------|--|
| Top 35 Professional    | A player ranked within the top 35 in the published WISPA world rankings on 1 <sup>st</sup> September   |
| Top 150 Professional   | A player ranked within 36 - 150 in the published WISPA world rankings on 1 <sup>st</sup> September   |
| Overseas Player Type 1 | A player where their primary place of residence is outside of Ireland, who does not fall in to the Top 35 Professional or Top 150 Professional player types    |
| Overseas Player Type 2 | As Overseas Player Type 1 but whose primary place of residence is more than a four hour flight from Dublin Airport, Ireland.                                   |
| Home Player            | A player where their primary place of residence is in Ireland. Home players should play at least 1 Tour Event outside the province where they normally reside. |

The player type will determine how many events played in the last 12 months will be used to calculate the ranking:

| Player Type            | % of Total Events |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Top 35 Professional    | 10%               |
| Top 150 Professional   | 30%               |
| Overseas Player Type 1 | 30%               |
| Overseas Player Type 2 | 10%               |
| Home Player            | 60%               |

For example, if there are 7 events in the last 12 months at the time the rankings are calculated, for a Home Player with a percentage of 60%, the points achieved at their top 4 scoring events will be aggregated to calculate their ranking.

To ensure all players, regardless of type, can achieve maximum points, a weighting is calculated for each player type based on the % of total events they must play. The Home Player scoring calculation is used as the baseline to calculate the multipliers for all player types.

Based on 7 tournaments played over the last 12 months at the time the rankings are calculated:

- For a Home Player with a percentage of 60%, the number of qualifying events for ranking calculation is  $7 \times 60\% = 4$  events (rounded to nearest number)
- The maximum points a Home Player can achieve in 4 events is:
  - Winner of Level 1 event = 1000
  - Winner at 3 Level 2 events =  $3 \times 750 = 2250$
  - Total points that can be achieved is 3250
  - Home Player is used as the baseline for other player types, therefore multiplier is 1
- The maximum points a Top 35 Professional player can achieve in 1 event is:
  - Winner of Level 1 event = 1000
  - Total points that can be achieved is 1000
  - Multiplier is calculated as Home Player total points achievable divided by Top 35 Professional player points achievable =  $3250/1000 = 3.25$

Multipliers for all players, based on the 7 tournaments to be played over 12 months are calculated as:

| Player Type            | %   | Qualifying Events | Maximum Points  | Multiplier |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------|---|------------|
| Top 35 Professional    | 10% | 1                 | 1000 (1 <sup>st</sup> Level 1 event)                                    | 3.25       |
| Top 150 Professional   | 30% | 2                 | 1750 (1 <sup>st</sup> Level 1 event, 1 x 1 <sup>st</sup> Level 2 event) | 1.86       |
| Overseas Player Type 1 | 30% | 2                 | 1750 (1 <sup>st</sup> Level 1 event, 1 x 1 <sup>st</sup> Level 2 event) | 1.86       |
| Overseas Player Type 2 | 10% | 1                 | 1000 (1 <sup>st</sup> Level 1 event)                                    | 3.25       |
| Home Player            | 60% | 4                 | 3250 (1 <sup>st</sup> Level 1 event, 3 x 1 <sup>st</sup> Level 2 event) | 1.00       |

The number of qualifying events and multiplier for each player type will be determined and published at the start of the season before the first event.

A list of all players who have competed in tournaments in recent years and their player types for the season can be found on the Irish Squash web site.

If a player enters a tournament and has not played in a ranking event before, they will be assigned a player type and corresponding multiplier. It is expected that all players will strive to play the minimum number of qualifying tournaments that applies to their player type to achieve a proper ranking.

An Overseas Player Type 1 will be required to do the following at least 1 week before the first Tour event.

- Apply to the Selectors to be given this status.
- Submit to the Selectors a schedule for the season of all tournaments that they intend to play in (both home and abroad) and update the schedule as necessary throughout the year giving their results from all tournaments that they have played in.

An Overseas Player Type 2 (OPT2) will be required to do the following at least 1 week before the first Tour event

- Apply to the Selectors to be given this status.
- Submit to the Selectors a schedule for the season of all tournaments that they intend to play in (both home and abroad) and update the schedule as necessary throughout the year giving their results from all tournaments that they have played in.
- If their visits to Ireland do not coincide with Tour Events, they will be required to play matches against Home Players during their home visits. Home Players of a similar standard will be invited, by the selectors, to play against the OPT2. Home Players will be expected to make every reasonable effort to be available to play. Selectors will organise dates, venues and referees.

### **Ranking Calculation**

Rankings will be published at the start of the season, and then subsequently calculated after each event and published 1 week afterwards. They will be calculated as follows:

- The number of qualifying events played within the 12 months will be determined
- The multiplier will be determined for each player dependent on their player type
- The highest points achieved at the number of qualifying events for the player will be aggregated
- The total for the player will be multiplied by their multiplier

Note: A Top 35 Professional player will be automatically placed at the top of the Irish rankings. Where there is more than one Top 35 Professional, their position will be determined by their WISPA ranking at the time the rankings are calculated

### **Event Seeding**

Seedings for events will be based on results and not points gained in Tour Events. To move up the seeding ladder you must beat someone ahead of you in a Tour Event.

Note: A Top 35 Professional player will be automatically placed at the top of the Irish seeding. Where there is more than one Top 35 Professional, their position will be determined by their WISPA ranking at the time the seedings are calculated

### The seeding ladder

- will be updated by the selectors after each Tour Event
- will be based on tournament results
- players do not “swop” positions on the ladder, the winner of a match moves ahead of the player they beat, the losing player moves down 1 position. However there are maximum number of places that a player can move as a result of a single result
  - within the top 5 positions players may only move up a maximum of 2 places
  - from positions 6 to 10 players may only move up a maximum of 3 places
  - from positions 11 to 15 players may only move up a maximum of 4 places
  - from position 16 and over players may only move up a maximum of 5 places
- if a player beats 2 players more than the maximum places above, the selectors will consider the matter and decide on positions
- if a player is not playing/inactive they can be removed from the seeding ladder.
- if a player is returning after an injury/absence, the player is inserted into the ladder within 3 places of where they left. They must apply to the selectors for a seeding.
- if a player is entering a Tour Event and not seeded, they must apply to the selectors for a seeding giving details of recent matches played with results and game scores.
- Appeals on seedings must be made in writing to the selectors. Selectors may notify any players who might be affected by the appeal.

### Clarification of terms

- “Irish Squash Rankings – Women’s Irish Rankings” is the ranking of players using the multipliers (explained elsewhere) and used for the team selection to go to the Women’s World Team Championship and the European Team Championships.
- “Irish Squash Grand Prix - Women’s Grand Prix Standings” are the points gained in the Tour Events.
- “Irish Squash Events Seeding Ladder” is the player order that is used for seeding players in Tour Events.

### **Tournament Withdrawals**

If a player withdraws during an event they will receive no points unless a valid medical certificate is received by Irish Squash within 1 week of the event concluding. Any player that withdraws after the draw for an event is published may be subject to disciplinary action by Irish Squash.

## **Irish Senior Women: Team Selection Policy**

### **Selection Criteria**

The selection criteria for the Irish Senior team for European and World Championships will be based on the last published rankings prior to the selection date. The selection date will be determined by the selection committee but will be dependent on the date required for team nominations provided by the European or World Squash Federation. The date of the rankings used for selection and the actual team selection date will be published on the Irish Squash web site as soon as it is known. It is the responsibility of individual players to find out what the selection dates are and understand how this will affect their eligibility and impact their ranking at the time of selection.

The rankings will be used to select the members of the team. In exceptional circumstances only, the selectors may use up to two wildcards in selecting the team. A wildcard selection will be based on:

- Current form & recent results
- Commitment
- Consideration and opinion of the selectors

It is in each player's best interest to forward any additional relevant results from head to heads, closed events or WISPA tournaments to the selection committee.

The team to travel will be selected using these criteria, but the team order and player selection for each match at the European/World Championships will be decided by the coach.

If a Wildcard is used to select a player to play in the European or World Championships then the player who missed selection due to the wild card selection shall be granted free entry all Tour Events for the following 12 months.

### **Selection Committee:**

The Irish Senior Women's Selection Committee for 2014/2015 is:

- Hadrian Stiff
- Anne Costello
- Rosie Barry

### **Approximate dates:**

The dates for major tournaments are as follows:

- World Team Championships: Canada: 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014 (21/9/14 selection date)
- European Team Championships: Herning, Denmark: 29<sup>th</sup> April – 2nd May 2015

Depending on the dates a major tournament is being held, the selection committee reserves the right to set additional criteria and/or run play off matches to confirm form e.g. following the end of season summer break where no events have been played and there is a need to select and nominate a team before or soon after the season commences.